

M E D I A A D V I S O R Y

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UNIQUELY CALIFORNIAN LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

WHAT: In celebration of Labor Day, honoring the great contributions of the working men and women of America, the California Employment Development Department (EDD) would like to turn the spotlight on unusual, interesting, and inspiring jobs. There is something “Uniquely Californian” about the wide range of occupations we pursue here in the Golden State.

WHEN: September 2005

WHO: Twelve Californians and their innovative occupations. Among them are a horse dentist, feng shui real estate broker, a painter who shares her art to help hospitalized youngsters, an engineer who levels the playing field for workers with disabilities, and an animal DNA expert who rounds up rustlers.

WHY: The Uniquely Californian campaign is designed to honor California’s workers and to highlight EDD’s role in helping Californians find jobs of all kinds, from the unique to the traditional.

WHERE: The EDD Web site: www.edd.ca.gov . Find links and information about EDD’s no-fee services, labor market information, CalJOBS (EDD’s on-line labor exchange system), an interactive job match challenge, and the 2005 Labor Day Briefing for California, a status report on the state’s workforce, the growing and in-demand occupations, and a spotlight on the manufacturing industry.

Note to Editors: Brief profiles (including location) of 12 Californians featured on EDD’s Web site follow:

Horse Dentist Placerville

Tony Basile started out filing down the teeth of horses at \$15 a job. Now he travels the world, pulling teeth, doing root canals, and teaching his craft.

(more)

Artist in Residence: Sharing art with hospitalized kids Sacramento

Painter Kathy Lemke Waste brings art to children hospitalized with spinal cord injuries, severe burns, and other major injuries – and sees them blossom.

19th Century Sailing Ship Captain Dana Point

Longtime engineer Robert Clifford reinvents himself as the captain on a replica of a 19th century sailing ship at a “hands-on” education program for school children.

Feng Shui Real Estate Expert Arroyo Grande

Real estate broker Holly Ziegler finds success using an ancient Chinese art to help house hunters find the perfect home.

Doggie Day Care Provider Sacramento

Desalene Jones turns her love for dogs into a lucrative business: a Doggie Day Care center for people who can't bring themselves to leave their pets home alone.

Sign Language Interpreter for Scientists Livermore

Cathy Kaplan's love of language and love of people come together as she uses sign language to help deaf scientists communicate at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Antique and Modern Arcade Machine Repairman Santa Cruz

Sam King arrived at the Boardwalk as the age of the video game was dawning. Now he and his crew can fix any arcade game – from Terminator to a 100-year-old mechanical football game.

Animal Forensic Scientist Davis

Forensic scientist Teri Kun uses DNA from animals to track down vicious dogs, round up cattle rustlers, and even convict a triple murderer.

Personal Chef Mission Viejo

“I love to talk and I love to cook,” says Susan Monk, who turned those talents into a business that brings her into homes to prepare meals, from a romantic dinner for two to a dinner party of 70.

Ice Sculptor Orange

After 20 years in the Marines, James Ottens plunges into a new career that keeps him busy in his garage, creating ice sculptures of all sizes and shapes.

Rehabilitation Engineer Sacramento

Jeff Symons puts his engineering skills to work developing assistive technology to level the playing field for workers with disabilities.

Sand Carver Seal Beach

Architect Kent Trollen finds sand carving a more enjoyable way of earning a living. Now he builds castles and other sand creations across the country.

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